

The Southern Herald

VOL. LI.

LIBERTY, MISSISSIPPI, FRIDAY, MAY 26, 1916.

NO. 7.

PITCHER ALEXANDER GOES UP IN AEROPLANE



Manager Pat Moran Watching His Star Pitcher Make an Ascension.

Grover Cleveland Alexander, the Phillies' star pitcher and the premier boxman of the National league, made his first ascension in an aeroplane with Johnny Green, the aviator, who made the trip across the Lookout Mountains in Tennessee.

Manager Moran was very reluctant about letting Alexander make the trip, he does not want his \$40,000 star to get the habit of making these aerial ascensions nor does he want to run the risk of Alexander getting hurt.

Alexander has been priming himself for the season's opening and is in fine shape. He is confident that he will duplicate his wonderful performance of last year.

The photo shows Manager Moran (left), Aviator Green (center), Alexander in his outfit on the aviator's right.

TYLER HAS UNIQUE DELIVERY

Big Southpaw Flinger of Boston Braves Is Most Effective Hurler in National League.

George Tyler, the southpaw member of the pitching trio that made the Braves the sensation of the National league, is considered the most effective left-hander in the National. He owes his effectiveness mostly to his overhand motion and to his cross-fire.

Overhand pitching southpaws are rare. Waddell was one and there have been few others. But overhand



George Tyler.

cross-fire delivery have not existed until Tyler himself came along. Usually the cross-fire is a side-arm ball. Tyler throws it by taking a long step toward first base.

The ball does not leave his hand until he is nearly a yard away from the batter's box and comes sailing in on a right-hand biter and away from the left-handed Tyler has a wonderful curve and a change of pace.

His slow ball is held loosely in his hand, exactly like his fast one, but no pressure is exerted except by his thumb and little finger. The ball is "covered" and it is impossible to tell what he will throw.

Entertainment for Employees. The Tri-Copper league, maintained in Arizona by the Consolidated Copper company for the entertainment of its employees, is harboring a number of players who have refused to report to clubs in organized ball.

Harry Helman has been going so good with the Tigers that the talk is he has beaten George Burns out of the first base job on the team. Manager Jennings is much impressed with his hitting ability.

DIAMOND NOTES

Fort Worth has released Gust. He was told to blow to other parts.

The new Cleveland Indians threaten to be a scrappy bunch this year.

Reb Russell is fooling a lot of fans who think he won't show much this season.

Right now is the time for each city to announce that it has a baseball pennant winner.

Every big leaguer has a dual personality. He is a hero one day, a boob the next.

Yes, Montague, if Eddie Plank had been pitching in '61 he would have gone to the front.

With Tris Speaker again safe in the fold, the Red Sox are banking on the American league flag.

Baseball teams just now are all looking hopefully at the upper apartments in the percentage columns.

One of the most profitable prerogatives of eminence in sport is signing somebody else's stuff.

Columbus has given Pitcher Jack Ferry his unconditional release. Guess Ferry couldn't come across.

Pitcher Ray Keating reported late to Manager Bill Donovan, but got himself in shape rapidly.

The St. Paul American association club has notified the St. Louis Cardinals that it cannot use Ham Hyatt.

Jimmy Callahan's Pittsburgh Pirates have been forbidden to smoke cigarettes. The stogie trust getting busy eh?

Buck Herzog is starting early. He made such a scene in an exhibition game at New Orleans that he was put off the field.

Connie Mack has cautioned his Athletics against overeating at their next appearance at the world's champions banquet table.

Clayton Perry, recently released by the Mobile Southern league club, has caught on with the St. Joseph Western league club.

Massey, the young shortstop of the Pelicans, is a pretty nifty looking youngster. He is just out of the University of Texas.

We learn that George Sisler comes from a Good Swiss family. We thought there was something familiar about George's windup.

FILLED ANY POSITION

CHARLES FERGUSON NAMED AS BEST ALL-ROUND BALL PLAYER.

Made Reputation With Philadelphia Nationals During Late '80's as Pitcher—Covered Much Territory Around Second.

The wonderful all-round work on the diamond last season for the St. Louis Browns by a young collegian named George Sisler recalls the name of the great Charles Ferguson, who was named as the best all-round ball player the game ever had.

Ferguson made his reputation with the Philadelphia Nationals during the late '80's as hurler and general utility player, and he was cut off right in the height of his playing ability and glory in 1888.

Here is some history about the great Ferguson and a few records he made during his short but brilliant career: Ferguson was secured from the Virginia club of Richmond, Va., in 1883, and began his work for the Philadelphia Nationals in the spring of 1884. That team was more or less of a joke, but the magnificent work of Ferguson was a big factor in making it a contender for pennant honors in 1886 and 1887, and it was during those seasons Ferguson made national fame.

Here is his work for 1887: A percentage of .728 in games won, a fielding record of .947 in 25 games at second and a batting average of .414.

Ferguson could catch a splendid game, and before going to Philadelphia he was known to go behind the bat one day and pitch the day following. In playing second he could cover a vast amount of territory, was equally sure on ground and fly balls and a strong, quick thrower.

SAYS RACE WILL BE HUMMER

Miller Huggins Says Every Team in National League Has Fighting Chance to Win Out.

Miller Huggins, leader of the St. Louis Nationals, declares it will take a good guesser to pick the pennant winner in the circuit this year. "Every team has a fighting chance," he says, "not even excepting the Cardinals."



Manager Miller Huggins.

dinals. I consider the National league is better balanced than in 1915."

Huggins refused to hazard an opinion as to his own choice.

"However," he continued, "the team that beats out Boston will run one, two."

The St. Louis leader believes New York has a chance if McGraw's pitchers hold up, describes Brooklyn's aggregation as well balanced, and regards Cincinnati as shifty.

Huggins admits the power Alexander lends to the Philadelphia team, but maintains his own athletes will make every opponent realize they are in a real fight for the pennant.

OLD VETS IN NORTHWESTERN

President Blewett Names Bill Finerman, Harry Howell and Garnet Bush as His Umpires.

President Blewett of the Northwestern league announces his umpire staff for 1916 as follows: Bill Finerman, once in the National league and last year a Fed; Harry Howell, former American league pitcher and since then an umpire in a variety of leagues; and Garnet Bush, an umpire at one time or another in most every league. No provision is made for a relief umpire, as the Northwestern prexy believes this trio, with the experience it has had, should be hardened to all sorts of mishaps.

Connie Mack still insists on using fruits on the mound.

GERMAN MACHINE GUNS MOW DOWN RUSSIAN MASSES

Terrific Assaults of the Czar's Soldiers in Ten Days Bloody Battle.

DEAD PILED HIGH ON FIELD

"Magnificent, but Criminal," Says Tension Officer, in Describing Advance Made by Slavs in Face of Certain Death.

By OSWALD F. SCHUETTE, (Special Correspondent of Chicago Daily News.)

With Field Marshal von Hindenburg's Armies, Near Postaw, Russia. —I have come to these blood-drenched battlefields too late to see the terrific assaults of the great Russian offensive, so I can only tell the story of this battle that raged day after day by picturing the scenes as I find them and piecing together into one ghastly mosaic the fragments of what I am told. I have talked with officers and men of the German regiments that held back the Russian deluge and have carefully gone over the statements of the Russian prisoners.

This battlefield consists of an open glade cut through the Russian primeval forest. It runs almost due north and south and varies in width from 400 to 1,500 yards. The Russians were entrenched along the eastern edge of this opening, while the forest behind offered splendid opportunities for concealing movements of troops and emplacements of artillery. The German lines skirt the western edge of the glade.

Battle Lasts Ten Days. The Russian fighting at this point lasted ten days before the czar's troops finally gave up their attempt to break through the German lines. On the first day the Russian fire was sporadic, apparently to make certain the range of the guns. Then for two days more the Russian bombardment continued, but now it was a real "drum fire." This means that the cannonading is so heavy that it sounds like the rattle of a drum.

On the afternoon of the third day the Russian drum fire was suddenly lifted from the German trenches and converted into a "sperrfeuer" (curtain fire) back of the German lines to prevent the bringing up of reserves. It was the signal for a Russian attack. Out of the forest came the storming Russians straight for the German lines, straight into the curtain of German artillery fire that tore great gaps in the attacking columns, though these quickly closed up.

In the meantime the German troops rushed out of their dugouts into the water-filled and shell-torn trenches. Almost in a moment the machine guns were jerked out of the bombproof protection, and after being hastily mounted on the wreckage of the breastworks, began to sputter their fearful greeting to the Russians.

Between the machine guns rattled the infantry fire. There was no time for giving commands and there was no need of any. There were no volleys. Each German soldier fired as fast as he could. The gaps in the Russian line widened, and then the Russians would halt and fire toward the German trenches, but it was hard to aim, and the bullets scarcely checked the withering crash of machine gun and rifle fire.

Stopped at Barbed Wire. The Russian wave reached the barbed wire entanglements before the

German breastworks, but came no farther. Torn, beaten and shattered into a thousand fragments, the remnants of the Russian host beat a retreat. How many reached the protection of their trenches under the unceasing German fire no one can tell, but the ground between the German and Russian lines was covered with dead and dying. There was no further attack that night.

Toward morning the thunder of the cannon quieted and the cries of the wounded were almost stilled by day-break.

The great battlefield was asleep only for an hour when the action of the fourth day began with another terrific drum fire, which lasted until long past noon.

Again the Russian wave broke from the forests, but it had hardly got out of the woods before the German artillery opened fire. Again shells tore open the ranks; again the machine guns piled up the dead. The task was more terrible than on the day before, as the Russians had to storm over the bodies of their dead comrades.

Again the night was freezing cold, again the hours were hideous with the cries of the dying men out there on the battlefield and again the darkness was filled with the thunder of cannon. To prevent a night attack, the Germans kept up a discharge of illuminating rockets and a blue-greenish glare added to the ghastliness of the field of death. But no Russians dared to advance.

At daybreak the Russians opened with a third drum fire. This time it was more terrible than on the previous occasions, for it was directed not only on the German trenches, but deep into the lines behind them, to hold back the reserves and prevent the bringing up of relief to the half-frozen German soldiers, who, bundled up, were standing in the water-filled dugouts waiting for the attack which they knew was inevitable. At eight o'clock the attack came and this time it was more successful.

Despite the artillery, despite the machine guns and despite the infantry fire, the apparently inexhaustible regiments of Russians swept on over the dead, over the barbed-wire barriers before the German line, over the first trenches and routed the German soldiers, who were half frozen in the mud of their shattered shelters. A terrific hand-to-hand conflict followed. Hand grenades tore down scores of defenders and assailants alike. The men fought like maniacs with spades, bayonets, knives and clubbed guns.

Within 100 Feet of Victory.

But the Russians won at a fearful price for so slight a gain. It might have been worth more had the Russian deluge swept farther, but it did not. The Russians stopped within a hundred feet of victory. It may have been lack of discipline, lack of officers or lack of reserves; no one knows.

The Russians seemed helpless in the German trench; instead of sweeping on into the second lines they tried to trench themselves in the wrecked German first line. Immediately German artillery hurled shells of the heaviest caliber into these lines, and tore them into fragments.

Then came the German reserves, and by nightfall the Russians had again been driven out, 800 of them being taken prisoners.

Four days of almost absolute quiet followed, with only occasional artillery fire and now and then a sputtering infantry volley across the glade with its burden of death when the scout posts on either side thought they saw the enemy. The weather turned warm again and the field of battle was an almost impassable swamp.

Attack Without Drum Fire.

On the eighth day reports reached the German lines that the Russians intended to make a surprise attack that night without any drum fire. The German artillery therefore shelled the Russian woods at a terrific rate at hourly intervals through the night. All the troops remained on duty without a

minute of sleep, but no Russians came. The next day was quiet.

That night again it was feared there might be a surprise attack and so again the German artillery shelled the Russian lines until morning. But there was no attack until the following noon, when, without any artillery preparation, the Russian onslaught was repeated. A German officer told me the story of that attack. He said that if he had not seen it himself he would never have believed it possible that an attack would come out of the Russian woods, where the lines were almost 1,500 yards apart.

Suddenly, without any warning, a mud-colored wave began to pour forth from the forest. It was a line of Russians three ranks deep, containing more than 1,000 men. They marched step by step, and did not run. Behind this was a second wave like the first, and then a third, the intervals between them being about 150 yards.

The German artillery tore holes in the ranks, which merely closed up again, marched on and made an attempt to fire. They marched, as though on parade. "It was magnificent, but criminal," said the German officer.

Then came a fourth line like the other three. The first line was less than 1,000 yards from the German trenches. It came so slowly that it was possible for the Germans to make plans with cruel precision to meet it.

Caught Between Walls of Fire.

When the fourth line emerged from the Russian wood the German artillery dropped a curtain of fire behind it and then a similar wall of shells ahead of those in front. They then moved these two walls closer together with a hall of shrapnel between them, while at the same time they cut loose with the machine guns.

The splendid formation of Russians, trapped between the walls of fire, scattered heedlessly in every direction, but in vain. Shells gouged deep holes in the dissolving ranks. The air was filled with clamor and frantic shrieks were sometimes heard above the incessant roar and cracking or exploding projectiles.

Deafened men sought to dig themselves into the ground in the foolish belief that they could find safety there from this deluge of shells. Others raced madly for the rear and some escaped in this way as if by a miracle. Still others ran toward the German lines, only to be cut down by the German machine-gun fire.

In less than twenty minutes the terrible drama was over. The attack had cost the Russians 4,000 lives, and yet not a Russian soldier had come within 500 yards of the German lines. "It was a terrible harvest of death," said the officer who described the battle. It was the last gasp of the Russian offensive at this point.

TEACH BOYS HOW TO COOK

Domestic Science Applied by Lads in Kansas Opposed by the Girl Students.

McPherson, Kan.—Leap year is producing adverse results in Central academy and college here.

A dozen boys have applied for a domestic science course and others will join. The instructor is Miss Viola Graham, and she has received a number of additional applications. The course will include cooking and sewing and will continue the remainder of the school year.

The girls are doing their best to prevent the movement of bachelorhood by inviting the boys to attend skating parties, but the domestic science boy students are busy practicing the culinary art, and they assert that if the women intend to live independent lives they also can.

These Are Swift Times.

New York.—A "wed and divorced" record was established by Habbette and William F. Busch. They separated four days after the wedding.

pulled a kettle of boiling soup off the stove. The child's mother, Mrs. Albert Johnson, carried her daughter to the hospital for treatment.

His Own Funeral Director.

Reading, Pa.—In his will, W. H. S. Moyer named a clergyman to preach the funeral service and directed that he be paid \$2.50; named his pallbearers, described the kind of coffin he wanted and ordered that his body be kept six days to make sure he was dead. The provisions were carried out.

Death Takes Heavyweight.

Jersey City, N. J.—Death has claimed William R. Katt, forty-four, who weighed 573 pounds. Katt used a strongly re-enforced automobile and lived in rooms that were especially constructed to support his weight.

Requires Alterations.

Hokus—Why does a woman change her mind so often?

Pokus—Maybe she doesn't like the looks of it after she has made it up.—Town Topics.

WANT HUSBANDS WHO DANCE

Woman Students Say Men May Smoke and Play Bridge, but Must Not Drink.

Minneapolis.—The student newspaper of the University of Minneapolis, which had asked the woman students of the institution the question: "How much salary must a man receive before you would consent to marry?" has received replies ranging from \$800 to \$10,000 a year. Most of the girls were conservative in their demands, however, and the general average, based on early replies, is about \$1,600.

One girl wrote: "What is money to me? Give me a true, loving husband and a cottage."

A large majority of the girls demanded that their future husbands be good dancers, some said they must know the "latest steps" and one went so far as to say she would marry only a man who was a "dreamy dancer."

Smoking would be permitted, even demanded, by a large number of the girls, but drinking would be prohibited, and those who advocated card playing

say bridge should be substituted for poker, although one girl concedes her future husband one night a week for the latter game.

SINGS AS PAIN GRIPS HER

Seven-Year-Old Girl Chants Popular Airs While Burns Are Being Dressed in Hospital.

Kansas City.—"It's a long way to Tipperary. It's a long way to go." The voice of Laura Johnson, seven years of age, floated from the operating room at Emergency hospital and echoed through the building.

Nurses and doctors left their work, attracted by the unusual singing. One pushed open the door. On a white table lay the child. A nurse was bending over her. From the child's knees to her feet were burns.

During the painful proceedings the singing did not stop for more than a minute. Only once did the girl stop, when the pain caused her to bite her lip to keep back the tears. Then she began to sing "The Rosary."

The child was burned when she